

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:

1. A stretch edge elastic laminate, comprising:

a plurality of elastic filaments substantially aligned in a machine direction;

5 a first nonwoven facing material bonded to a first side of the elastic filaments to form an elastic laminate zone; and

at least one stretch edge positioned along a first lateral edge of the elastic laminate, the at least one stretch edge forming a first gasket zone.

10 2. The stretch edge elastic laminate of Claim 1, further comprising a second stretch edge positioned along an opposing second lateral edge of the elastic laminate, the second stretch edge forming a second gasket zone.

15 3. The stretch edge elastic laminate of Claim 1, further comprising a second nonwoven facing material bonded to a second side of the elastic filaments.

4. The stretch edge elastic laminate of Claim 1, wherein the stretch edge comprises an elastic film or plug substantially aligned in the machine direction, and a lateral edge region of the facing material bonded to the elastic film or plug.

5. The stretch edge elastic laminate of Claim 4, wherein the first nonwoven facing material is attached to the elastic zone and the elastic film or plug using an elastic adhesive.

6. The stretch edge elastic laminate of Claim 4, wherein the elastic film or plug has a thickness of about 0.003 inch to about 0.015 inch.

7. The stretch edge elastic laminate of Claim 4, wherein the elastic film or plug has a width-to-thickness ratio of at least 5.

8. The stretch edge elastic laminate of Claim 4, wherein the elastic film or plug has a width-to-thickness ratio of at least 10.

9. The stretch edge elastic laminate of Claim 4, wherein the elastic film or plug has a width-to-thickness ratio of about 16 to about 78.

10. The stretch edge elastic laminate of Claim 1, wherein the stretch edge has a width of about 0.078 inch to about 0.236 inch.

11. The stretch edge elastic laminate of Claim 1, wherein each elastic filament has a width of about 0.011 inch to about 0.019 inch.

12. The stretch edge elastic laminate of Claim 1, wherein each elastic filament has a thickness of about 0.011 inch to about 0.019 inch.

13. The stretch edge elastic laminate of Claim 1, wherein each elastic
5 filament has a width-to-thickness ratio of less than about 2.

14. The stretch edge elastic laminate of Claim 1, wherein the first gasket zone has a tension of about 80 g to about 250 g at 90% of a maximum stretch of the first gasket zone

15. The stretch edge elastic laminate of Claim 1, wherein the elastic zone has a tension of at least about 40 g at 90% of a maximum stretch of the elastic zone.

16. The stretch edge elastic laminate of Claim 1, wherein the first gasket zone has a tension at least equal to a tension of the elastic zone.

17. A method for producing a stretch edge elastic laminate, comprising the steps of:

forming a plurality of elastic filaments substantially aligned in a machine direction;

5 forming a first wide elastic member positioned adjacent the plurality of elastic filaments and substantially aligned in the machine direction;

quenching the elastic filaments and the first wide elastic member;

stretching the elastic filaments and the first wide elastic member;

10 laminating the elastic filaments and the first wide elastic member to at least one facing layer to form a laminate; and

cutting the laminate through the first wide elastic member to form the stretch edge elastic laminate having a first continuous stretch edge along a first lateral edge region thereof.

15 18. The method of Claim 17, further comprising the steps of:

forming a second wide elastic member positioned adjacent the plurality of elastic filaments and opposing the first wide elastic member, the second wide elastic member substantially aligned in a machine direction;

quenching the second wide elastic member;

20 stretching the second wide elastic member;

laminating the second wide elastic member to the at least one facing layer; and

cutting the laminate through the second wide elastic member to form the stretch edge elastic laminate having a second continuous stretch edge along a second lateral edge region thereof.

5 19. The method of Claim 17, wherein the first wide elastic member has a width of at least about 0.156 inch.

20. The method of Claim 17, wherein the first wide elastic member has a width of at least about 0.236 inch.

10 21. The method of Claim 17, wherein the continuous stretch edge has a width of about 0.078 inch to about 0.236 inch.

22. The method of Claim 17, wherein the elastic filaments and the
15 first wide elastic member are continuous.

23. The method of Claim 17, wherein the elastic filaments comprise a first elastomer composition and the first wide elastic member comprises a second elastomer composition different from the first elastomer composition.

24. The method of Claim 17, further comprising the step of laminating the elastic filaments and the first wide elastic member to a second facing layer.

5 25. The method of Claim 17, wherein a barrier layer is positioned between the first facing material and the elastic filaments and the first wide elastic member.

26. A disposable garment comprising a stretch edge elastic laminate,
10 the stretch edge elastic laminate comprising:

at least one elastomeric layer including a plurality of elastomeric filaments in a central region of the elastomeric layer and an elastic film or plug in at least one lateral edge region of the elastomeric layer;

a first facing material bonded to a first side of the elastomeric layer; and
15 a second facing material bonded to a second side of the elastomeric layer,

wherein a lateral edge of at least one elastic film or plug is aligned with a lateral edge of each of the first and second facing materials.

20 27. The disposable garment of Claim 26, comprising a diaper.

28. The disposable garment of Claim 26, comprising training pants.

29. The disposable garment of Claim 26, comprising swim wear.

30. The disposable garment of Claim 26, comprising absorbent underpants.

5

31. The disposable garment of Claim 26, comprising a baby wipe.

32. The disposable garment of Claim 26, comprising an adult incontinence product.

10

33. The disposable garment of Claim 26, comprising a feminine hygiene product.

34. The disposable garment of Claim 26, comprising a protective garment.

15